



News Release

Information Technology Resource Management Council

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Contact: Pat Wynn 208 332-1827
Idaho Department of Administration

STATE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES RECEIVE ITRMC TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

BOISE, ID – In a collaborative effort to recognize Idaho state and local government's effective use of information technology to improve services to citizens, six agencies were formally recognized today for their innovation by the State of Idaho.

The Information Technology Achievement Awards were presented for the first time by the Information Technology Resource Management Council, (ITRMC) at an award luncheon held Thursday, (Oct. 25) as part of its annual 2001 Digital Government 'Boot Camp' for Idaho Policy Makers at the Boise Centre on the Grove.

"These awards recognize and celebrate the excellent work and efforts by state and local government agencies in making it easier for Idaho citizens to get the information and services they need either online or through integrated processes," commented Pam Ahrens, ITRMC Chairman and Director of the Department of Administration. She added that the outstanding projects effectively use technology to contain costs, several of them building upon systems already in place. "As we move into tight budget years, it behooves us to utilize the investments we have already made."

Receiving awards in the following six categories were:

Digital Government: The Idaho Attorney General's "No-Call" Telemarketing List, which gives Idaho consumers the opportunity to register on-line their phone numbers on a no telephone solicitation contact list. On the final day to register for the initial listing, more than 5,000 registrations were received.

Information Architecture: The Idaho Air National Guard's Obligation Tracking and Integrated Engineering Management System, which allows for the use of shared resources between State and Federal government, and the ability to track work orders, man-hours, materials, and funds expended by both government entities.

Innovative Use of Technology: The City of Boise for its development of the Electronic Council Packet, which integrates the electronic age with the legislative and administrative business of government.

The electronic council packet (e-packet) along with other applications such as an e-budget provides more complete and instantaneous information to both city officials and the public through the Internet.

IT Professional Retention and Recruitment: The Information Technology Training Program (ITTP) is an on-line application which combines training resources from Idaho state government, higher education, major computer hardware and software firms, and private training organization to provide training to the state's IT employees. Because of its efficiencies, the cost of a high-end technical class dropped from an average cost in 1998 of \$1,900 to \$795 in January of 2001.

Service Applications: The Idaho Department of Labor's Internet Self Registration for Work system, which allows job seekers to register from any location using the Internet, and providing them access to Job Service systems and services at any time, and usually from within or near their homes. Today, Internet Self Registration provides about 20 percent of the department's total work registrations.

Public Private Partnership: The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Medicaid Network Consolidation Project, combines two major networks which administer Medicaid claims and related information, providing for seamless transfer of files between the department and an outside contractor. The combined system saves approximately \$240,000 per year in Medicaid operations and support costs.

Joining Ahrens in presenting the awards was Roger Parks, Chief Information Officer of the J.R. Simplot Company and member of the ITRMC, who chaired an Award Review Committee comprised of private business and industry representatives.